

2007-503

## DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

2070716

After conferring with the legal advisor for Iberia Parish Government and Mr. Tracy Walker of the Louisiana Ethics Commission, I do not believe that my vote constitutes a conflict of interest. But, out of an abundance of caution and in accordance with La. R.S. 42:1120, I would like to file this Disclosure Statement with the Louisiana Office of Governmental Ethics regarding my ability to vote on the following matter:

SUMMARY NO. 181 (Introduced by M. Larry Richard, District 13)  
A Resolution supporting one of the following options regarding Vida Shaw Bridge, (a) requesting the La. Department of Transportation and Development to proceed with the Vida Shaw Bridge Replacement Project or (b) requesting the La. Department of Transportation and Development to halt the Vida Shaw Bridge Replacement Project.

This matter was voted on by the Iberia Parish Council in regular session held on Wednesday, June 13, 2007.

**MATTER IN QUESTION:** Project for the replacement of the Vida Shaw Bridge from one-lane bridge to two lane bridge.

**DESCRIPTION OF TRANSACTION:** To vote to determine whether the Iberia Parish Council wants to grant authority to DOTD to let bids for the project or wants to request that DOTD discontinue all work on said project and leave existing one-lane bridge in place.

**DESCRIPTION OF NATURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT:** Council member is a majority owner in 3-D Fertilizer Company, which sells fertilizer to many farmers in the area, including many farmers of the Parish, who are in favor of replacing the bridge with a new, improved structure. Insinuations have been made that the Council member may lose existing customers of his business if he votes to retain the existing bridge.

**REASONS FOR CASTING VOTE:** The Council member has an obligation to his constituents to cast a vote and is able to cast a vote on the matter as he does not stand to gain financial benefit or loss due to his vote. This vote, as on any similar matter, such as road improvements, road relocations, etc. would not affect his private business more than any other member of the public. The Council member feels that casting a vote is fair, objective and in the public interest.

Thus done and signed on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2007.

*Alvin P. Romero*  
ALVIN ROMERO, DISTRICT 9  
IBERIA PARISH COUNCIL  
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